

SANDBACH
Sandbach Urban District Council.

INTERIM REPORT

on the Health and Sanitary
Circumstances of the District
for the Year ended 31st
December, 1942.

Medical Officer of Health :

JOHN CLEMINSON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

G. ALLMAN, M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Sandbach Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report for the year 1942 upon the Health and Sanitary circumstances of your area. In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health this Report is still issued in the curtailed form.

The health of your district during the past year has been satisfactory, and there are no particular items which call for special comment.

I beg to acknowledge with thanks the kindly co-operation of your Council, and of your Officials during the year under review.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

The customary notes on the Social Conditions are not requested by the Ministry of Health for the year ending 31st December, 1942.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Estimated Population, 8,685.

| | | | Total | Male. | Female. |
|------------------|------------------|-----|-------|-------|---------|
| Live Births ... | Legitimate ... | 122 | 58 | ... | 64 |
| | Illegitimate ... | 7 | 5 | ... | 2 |
| Still Births ... | ... | 6 | 4 | ... | 2 |

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated average population

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| mid 1942 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15.5 |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|

This compares with a rate of 15.8 per 1,000 of the population in England and Wales.

Still Birth-rate per 1,000 total (live and still Births) 44.4

Infantile Mortality.

The total number of Deaths is shown as follows :—

| | Total. | Male. | Female. |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Legitimate | 4 | ... 3 | ... 1 |
| Illegitimate | 1 | ... 1 | ... 0 |

This gives an Infantile Mortality rate of 38.7 per 1,000 live Births.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live Births, 32.8.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live Births, 142.9.

| | Total. | Male. | Female. |
|--------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Deaths | 110 | ... 57 | ... 53 |

Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population, 12.7.

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes :—

| | No. of Deaths. |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Puerperal Sepsis | 0 |
| Other Maternal causes | 0 |

The Maternal Mortality is .0 per 1,000 live and still Births.

The comparative figure for England and Wales is 2.01 per 1,000 live and still Births.

The following Table shews the Deaths from all causes within the district during the past year.

| Cause of Death | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cerebro-spinal fever... ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Scarlet fever | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Whooping Cough | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Diphtheria | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Other forms of Tuberculosis ... | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Syphilitic diseases | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Influenza | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Measles | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Acute inf. encephalitis ... | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Cancer of buc. cav. and æsoph. (M) uterus (F) | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Cancer of stomach and duodenum ... | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Cancer of breast | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cancer of all other sites ... | 12 | 9 | 3 |
| Diabetes | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Inter-cranial vascular lesions ... | 18 | 10 | 8 |
| Heart disease | 20 | 8 | 12 |
| Other diseases of circulatory system ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bronchitis | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Pneumonia | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| Other respiratory diseases ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum... | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Diarrhœa under two years ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Appendicitis | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Other digestive diseases ... | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Nephritis | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other maternal causes ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Premature birth | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Congenital malformation, birth inj., inf. dis. | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Suicide... ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Road traffic accidents ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other violent causes ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| All other causes ... | 24 | 10 | 14 |

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which requires comment.

There does not appear to be any occupations having a prejudicial effect on health.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

The Health Services in the area remained unchanged during the year. Linden Bank, at Elworth, continues to be used as a hostel for evacuees, who, on account of uncleanly habits, were unsuitable for billeting in ordinary houses.

SECTION C.

Water.

During 1942 the Water Supply only just proved equal to the increasing demands, and there was acute anxiety during the Summer, particularly in June, when the yield was insufficient to allow the operation of the Base Exchange Plant.

If the annual consumption continues to increase at the present rate the position in the peak period each midsummer will present a serious problem, and the Water Committee is fully aware of the difficulties.

In any scheme of Post-war development the Water Supply will need prior consideration.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There have not been any extensions to the Sewers during the year.

Elworth Sewage Works.

These Works are now taxed to their limit, having to deal with a large quantity from the local Works.

Closet Accommodation.

There are only a few Closets, other than Water Closets, and these are situated where the Sewers are not available.

One Pail Closet has been converted to the Water Carriage System in School Lane, Elworth.

Refuse Removal and Disposal.

There has been no deviation from the existing practice in the method of Public Cleansing, Collection and Disposal of House refuse.

Sanitary Inspection.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Number of Inspections during the Year | 690 |
| Statutory Notices served during the Year | 0 |
| Statutory Notices complied with | 0 |
| Informal Notices served during the Year | 25 |
| Informal Notices complied with | 14 |
| Informal Notices in hand | 11 |

The policy of interviewing owners is carried out before formal notices are served. Owing to the shortage of labour and materials, repairs are difficult to get done.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no Public Baths.

SECTION D.

Housing.

The customary table of Activities under the Housing Acts is omitted.

Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which formal notices were served under Housing Acts, requiring repairs, and which were rendered fit by owners after service of such formal notices... Nil.

Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices under the Public Health Acts were served requiring defects to be remedied and which were complied with 10

Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made Nil.

Number of Dwelling Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders (including Houses under Demolition Orders prior to 1942)... Nil.

Number of Houses erected during the Year ... Nil.

During the Year one of the unfit houses became vacant and is now being used for agricultural purposes. No other place being available, No. 19, Back Street, which was closed, has been temporarily occupied by a discharged soldier, with his wife and child.

The demand for housing accommodation in the area is still acute. Many more Houses are needed. The Housing Committee is now considering this question, and hope directly hostilities cease to have suitable sites available to commence the erection of model Dwelling Houses under a State Scheme.

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of Dwellings overcrowded at the end of the Year... | 9 |
| No. of Families dwelling therein | 10 |
| No. of Persons dwelling therein | 70 |

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

There are 38 Registered Cow-keepers, of whom 19 are producers of "Accredited" Milk. There are no producers of Tuberculin-tested Milk in the area. Tuberculin-tested, pasteurised and sterilised Milk are available.

The Shippsons at Wheelock Hall Farm have been extended.

One new Dairy has been built at Sycamore Farm, Elton.

A large quantity of Milk is sent to the larger Towns.

Meat and other Foods.

All private Slaughter-houses are out of service and the Co-operative Society's premises, Flat Lane, are being used as Public Abattoirs to supply Alsager, Middlewich and Sandbach.

Numbers and types of Animals slaughtered and portions found to be unfit for human food, including casualty Animals :

| Type | Number Slaughtered | Carcases— | | Liver, Pluck Kidneys, etc. | Heads |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|-------------------------------|-------|
| | | Whole | Portions | | |
| Bovines ... | ... 890 | 84 | 12 | 68 | 16 |
| Sheep ... | ... 4155 | 9 | — | 302 | — |
| Pigs ... | ... 30 | 1 | — | 2 | 3 |
| Calves ... | ... 250 | — | 2 | 3 | — |
| Total ... | 5325 | 94 | 14 | 375 | 19 |

There were 32 Animals notified under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, during the year. After slaughter, $22\frac{1}{2}$ of the carcasses and offals, also most of the offal from the remaining Animals, were destroyed.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

There are 28 registered premises for the preparation of Ice Cream or Preserved Food under Section 14 of this Act.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Scarlet Fever.

20 cases were notified, of whom 16 were removed to the West Heath Sanatorium.

Diphtheria.

3 cases of Diphtheria were notified, and all were removed to the Isolation Hospital. This figure, compared with 8 last year, may be regarded as being very satisfactory. 2 of the 3 cases had been immunised against Diphtheria.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Under the Council's Immunisation Scheme, the following table shows the number of children immunised to the end of the year.

| | |
|--|------|
| No. of children immunised, under School age | 84 |
| No. of children immunised, of School age | 115 |
| Total No. of children immunised since inception of the scheme in 1939 | 1826 |

Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1942.

| Disease | Total Cases Notified | Cases admitted to Hospital | Total Deaths |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Paratyphoid Fever ... | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Scarlet Fever ... | 20 | 16 | 0 |
| Diphtheria ... | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Pneumonia ... | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Erysipelas ... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia ... | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Measles ... | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| Whooping Cough ... | 2 | 0 | 0 |

The cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and 1 case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were already in the Sandbach Nursing Home.

Analysis of Notifiable Disease under Age Groups.

| Disease | Under 1 year | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 25 | 35 | 45 | 65 and over |
|--------------------|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------------|
| C. S. Meningitis | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Diphtheria ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Pneumonia ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Erysipelas ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles ... | ... | — | — | 3 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

TUBERCULOSIS.—New Cases and Mortality during 1942.

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| Age Period. | New Cases— | | | | Deaths— | | | |
|----------------|--------------|--------|------------------|--------|--------------|--------|------------------|--------|
| | Respiratory— | | Non-respiratory— | | Respiratory— | | Non-respiratory— | |
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| Up to 1 year | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1 — 5 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| 5 — 15 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| 15 — 25 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 25 — 35 | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 35 — 45 | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 45 — 55 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 55 — 65 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 65 upwards | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals ... | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 |

My thanks are due to the Clerk of the Council and the Sanitary Inspector for their help in the compilation of this Report.

I beg to remain,
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
JOHN CLEMINSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

